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It seems that the occasional occurrence of monoecious heads and also of more than one egg in an archegonium may indicate reversions to a more primitive ancestral type.—JENNIE M. SPEER, *The University of Chicago*.

## A PORTABLE, ADJUSTABLE CAMERA STAND

(WITH THREE FIGURES)

Occasion frequently arises when the scientific worker, whether in the field, at his station, in the office, or in the laboratory, needs to use the camera vertically, or at various angles between the vertical and the horizontal. The ordinary tripod does not admit of such adjustment unless special lugs are provided in the camera box. With the writer the need has often arisen for some handy method of using his camera, whereby he might photograph objects that must be kept in a horizontal position, or, in the field, where the best results require an angular view. On this account the stand shown in the accompanying photographs was devised and used with perfect success and great saving of time.

The stand is attached to any tripod by means of the standard tripod screw, and by a similar screw the camera is in turn attached to the adjustable stand as shown in fig. 2. In actual

operation the tripod is set firmly with the legs spread out pretty well to give rigidity, and to allow plenty of space for the bed of the adjustable stand between any two of the tripod legs in the case of vertical work. The stand is then attached to the tripod and turned about until the bed (*b*, fig. 2) points in a direction exactly between

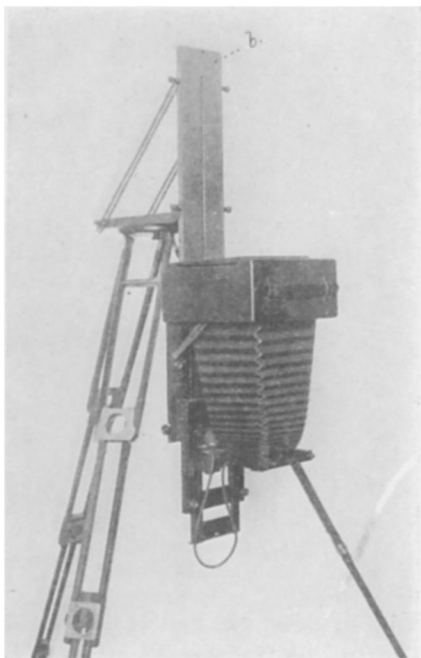


FIG. 1

two of the legs. The camera is then screwed in place as shown in all the illustrations. All that is then necessary, supposing the stand has been placed directly over the object to be photographed, is to adjust the camera at the proper distance from the object by sliding

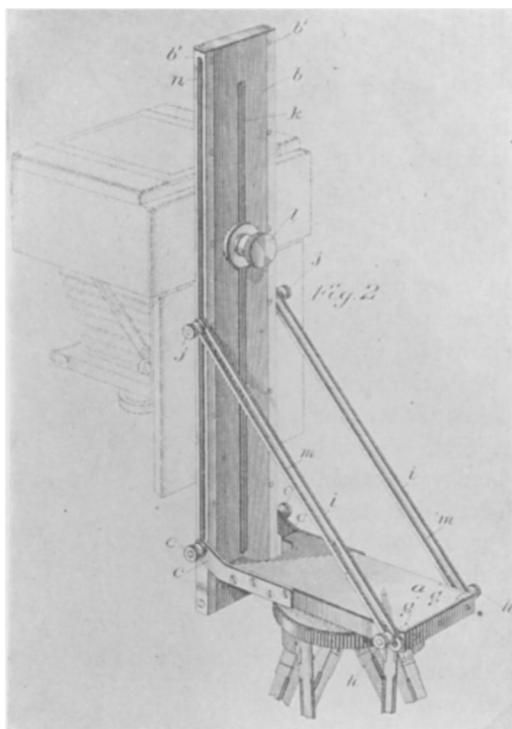


FIG. 2

it up or down the bed of the stand by means of the slot (*k*, fig. 2). The bed of the stand itself may be lowered or raised by means of the groove (*n*, fig. 2) and the binding screws (*j*, *j*, *c*, *c*). Fig. 1 shows the stand adjusted so that the camera shall be quite low, for use when objects on the ground are to be photographed on a large scale. Fig. 2 shows the stand adjusted for average vertical work; fig. 3 with the camera at an angle for photographing a plant or other object at about the same angle as it is usually viewed by a person standing near it. By reversing the camera, tall objects, such as portions of a tree, may be photographed.

The stand offers a long rigid base for quite heavy cameras and is admirably adapted for use with long-focus cameras; it may be folded compactly with the tripod or be packed in a suitcase. It is equally useful in the office and laboratory, where objects may be placed on some support, such as plate glass, to be photographed.

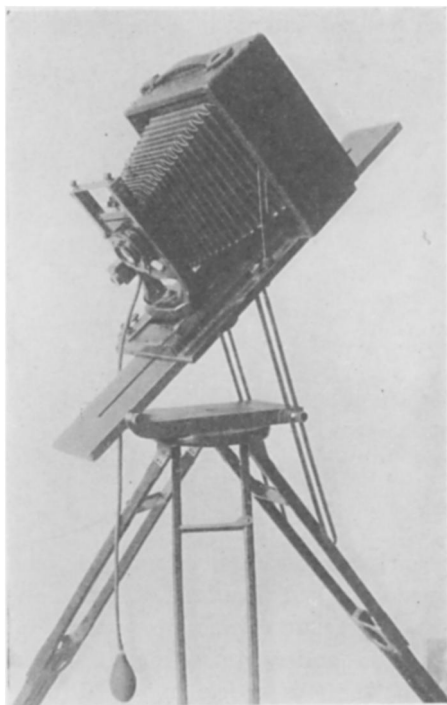


FIG. 3

The chief objection to any other device the writer has seen is that the tripod itself must be readjusted, always an awkward and tedious process. With this stand only the camera has to be moved to and fro on the bed to get the proper adjustment after the tripod has been set.  
—HARRY B. SHAW, *Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D.C.*

## HOMOTHALLIC CONJUGATION IN RHIZOPUS

(WITH ONE FIGURE)

A single case of homothallic conjugation in *Rhizopus nigricans* has recently been observed at the Hull Botanical Laboratory. The